

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
NSC-05 SS-15 EB-07 ACDA-07 TRSE-00 IGA-02 SSO-00
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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1465
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO JCS WASHDC IMMEDIATE
USMISSION NATO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY
USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY
USDELMC PRIORITY
USCINCEUR PRIORITY
CINCUSNAVEUR PRIORITY
CINCUSAFE PRIORITY
USDOCOSOUTH PRIORITY
DIRNSA PRIORITY

S E C R E T ATHENS 6332

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, MASS, GR, US
SUBJ: U.S.- GREEK DEFENSE COOPERATION DISCUSSIONS: PARITY IN
PROCUREMENT

REFS: (A) STATE 148767 (DTG 2516032Z JUN 77), (B) ATHENS 6339
(DTG 081554Z JUL 77), (C) 76 STATE 194567 (DTG 05211111Z AUG 76)
(NOTAL), (C) 76 CJUSMAGG 051337Z OCT 76) (NOTAL)

1. AFTER FURTHER DETAILED EXAMINATION OF THIS SUBJECT DURING
WORKING GROUP MEETINGS ON SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, JULY 9 AND 10, THE
GREEKS OFFERED TENTATIVE ACCEPTANCE OF THE US DRAFT EXCHANGE OF
NOTES (REF A) SUBJECT TO US AGREEMENT WITH A FEW CHANGES THEY
DESIRE. GREEKS STATED THAT FINAL GOVERNMENTAL STAFFING HAS NOT
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YET BEEN COMPLETED, BUT ASSURED US THAT THEY WOULD NOT SURPRISE
US WITH REQUESTS TO ADD ADDITIONAL ITEMS.

2. CHANGES DESIRED BY THE GREEKS FOLLOW, KEYED TO US DRAFT TEXT
IN PARA 8 OF REF A.

(A) SUBPARA (2). PROBABLE DELETION OF "5 P-3A AIRCRAFT" AND

"18 T-33A AIRCRAFT." (WE INFORMED GREEKS THAT WE HAD NO PROBLEM IN DELETING THESE OR ANY OTHER ITEMS IN THIS OR ANY OTHER SUBPARA OF THE TEXT.)

(B) SUBPARA (3). ADD "MODERN AIRCRAFT AND ANTI-AIRCRAFT SYSTEM". GREEKS WERE SKEPTICAL OVER US RATIONALE FOR NOT INCLUDING THE F-16 AND ROLAND MISSILE SYSTEM IN THE NOTE. HOWEVER, IN PLACE OF THESE SPECIFIC ENTRIES, THEY INSIST THAT THE GENERALIZED PHRASEOLOGY THEY NOW DESIRE IS NEEDED TO SATISFY "PRESTIGE" AND INTERNAL GREEK REQUIREMENTS AND DOES NOT COMMIT THE US TO SELL THEM ANY SPECIFIC SYSTEMS. THEY FURTHER ARGUED THAT THE OMISSION OF "FIGHTER" FROM "MODERN AIRCRAFT" AND THE OMISSION OF "MISSILE" FROM "MODERN ANTI-AIRCRAFT SYSTEM" CLEARLY SHOW THAT THEY ARE NOT ATTEMPTING TO USE THIS GENERAL PHRASEOLOGY TO COMMIT THE US TO SELL THEM THE F-16 OR ROLAND.

(C) PENULTIMATE PARA. IN LAST SENTENCE, DELETE PHRASE "SPECIFIED IN THE APPLICABLE LAW." GREEKS ARGUED THAT COMPARABLE LANGUAGE WAS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TURKISH NOTE AND THAT THE PHRASE IS REDUNDANT BECAUSE OF THE FINAL PHRASE OF THE INTRODUCTORY PARAGRAPH OF THE NOTE. WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT WE COULD SUSTAIN THIS PHRASE BUT WE FIND THE GREEK VIEW COMPELLING AND BELIEVE IT SHOULD BE ACCEPTED.

3. IN THE COURSE OF DISCUSSIONS, GREEKS ASKED THAT E-2 AIRCRAFT BE ADDED TO SUBPARA (3) (NEW PROCUREMENT). IN LIGHT OF REFS C AND D, WE CONVINCED THEM THAT ANY FURTHER DISCUSSION OF THIS AIRCRAFT
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SHOULD BE WITHIN REGULAR SECURITY ASSISTANCE CHANNELS. WE DO NOT EXPECT THE GREEKS TO RAISE THIS TOPIC AGAIN IN THE CONTEXT OF CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS ON THE PARITY IN PROCUREMENT ISSUE.

4. ACTION REQUESTED:

(A) GUIDANCE ON WHETHER TO ACCEPT GREEK CHANGES IN PARA 2.B ABOVE.

(B) WASHINGTON APPROVAL TO ACCEPT GREEK CHANGE IN PARA 2.C ABOVE.

(C) WASHINGTON REPLY NLT OPENING OF BUSINESS JULY 12.
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Message Attributes

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